Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, The population of seniors 65 and older is increasing dramatically and will make up 20 percent of America's total population by the year 2030, with the number of individuals 85 and older expected to more than double to 8.5 million; and,

Whereas, The concept of assisted living has quickly evolved to offer a brighter future with greater independence and more choices for Americans who are living longer, healthier lives; and,

Whereas, Assisted living residences are an exciting long-term care alternative for many seniors who may need some personal assistance, but want to remain as independent as possible; and,

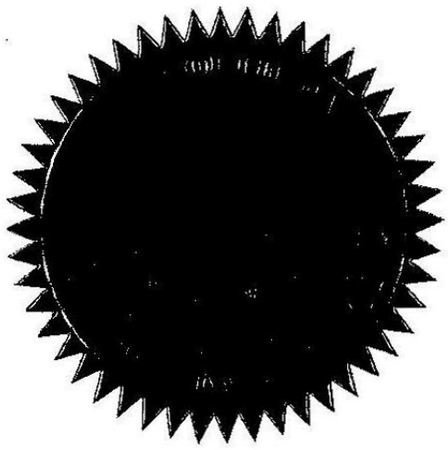
Whereas, Assisted living providers are dedicated to providing quality care and committed to educating the public about the many affordable health care and housing options available for seniors in their communities; and,

Whereas, The Assisted Living Federation of America and the Assisted Living Association of South Dakota proudly sponsor National Assisted Living Week "Sharing Life Treasures" on September 7-13, 2003:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim the week of September 7-13, 2003, as

NATIONAL ASSISTED LIVING WEEK

in South Dakota, and urge all citizen's to visit the residents of these communities to learn more about assisted living and how seniors of our state can age in a nurturing, home-like environment with dignity, independence and quality of life.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-third Day of July in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State